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THE MIRROR OF THE SOUL.

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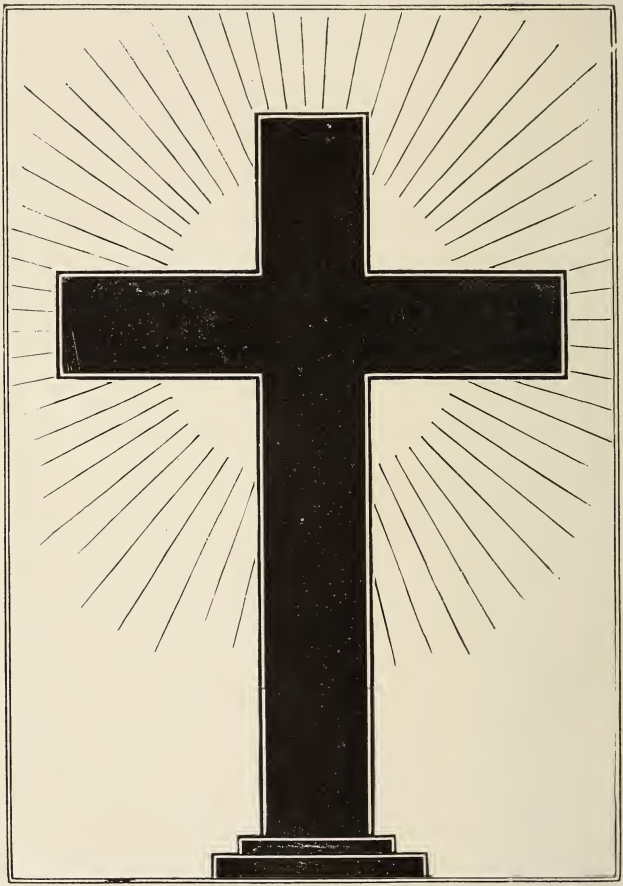

THE

Mirror of the Soul

THE HUMAN HEART:

God's Temple,

BUT ALSO

A Dwelling of Satan.

PICTORIALLY

Illustrated, Demonstrated, Explained and Described.

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ERNEST E. PATES,

NEW YORK, 1891.

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THE

CHRISTIANS TREASURE,

Choice Selections

FROM THE

HOLY BIBLE.

For the Promotion of the Christian Creed.

Demonstrated on
12 Charts with 150 Figures, Sacred Songs, Poems and Prayers.

A TREASURE FOR TRUE CHRISTIANS AND ALL WHO WISH TO BE ONE.

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PREFACE.

To our Readers:

This little book, the Mirror of the Soul, also called the Mirror of the Heart was written and drawn on twenty-six quarto-pages by the former provost, councilor of the consistory and pastor John N. J. Schmidt and was found among his papers at the time of his death, which occurred in the ninety-first year of his life and in the sixty-eighth year of his continuous and uninterrupted labor in the same church at Ettelar in Holstone, In 1833 it came into the possession of Frederick A. Von Paehtz, privy councilor, and councilor of the consistory and professor of theology who made numerous changes, corrections and additions to it

The present authorized publisher has worked at it for more than three years and has spared neither time, labor, or money to make of it a work pleasing in the sight of God. He has revised and improved it greatly, has adhered closly to the text of the Scriptures, and has had it

translated into several languages, so that it might be acessible to as large a number of readers as possible. He has done all this in the hope that it will be a source of joy to all who read it.

He therefore requests all Christians who take a friendly interest in his work particularly ministers, teachers and all brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, to use their utmost endeavors to secure for this little book the largest circulation possible so that it may keep alive the love for the church in all Christendom.

In this mirror which is held here before the sinful mankind and world every true Christian in search of salvation can see the true state of his heart and soul and can regulate his mode of life accordingly; he can also see in it how he has lived in the past, how he will live in the future and what his reward will be, eternal life or eternal damnation.

NEW YORK, 1887—1891.

THE PUBLISHER.

In this new edition much has been changed,—only not the truth for that remains unchangeable forever and in all time,— and I firmly believe that the spirit of the times will regard a book like this not with pleasure but with an evil eye.

For this book shows to us the author of all sin and of mental slavery,—the devil,— as well as the author of all life and of the liberty of the Children of God, Jesus Christ, in us, only too plainly. The spirit of the times laughs at the devil as if he did not exist, denies his existence and his influence upon mankind. Nor does the spirit of the times believe in Christ nor in our salvation by Him as it is taught us in the Holy-scriptures.

But as we know that the spirit of the times is not a creature of the Lord, but of the devil, we care but very little whether it will like this book or not.

We remain true to the teachings of Christ and his apostles and find them still so excellent, so healing and so inspiring that we would not exchange them for any opinion put forth by the spirit of the times.

Christ and his apostles taught explicitly.
That the kingdom of God is of the pious and the faithful.

While He purifies, sanctifies and blesses those who dwell within His temple and endows them with divine strength, heavenly peace and eternal life, even so hath Satan his kingdom among the wicked the unbelieving and the godles. He, the spirit of evil produces evil within them, dwells within them, and causes them to be wretched and everlastingly unhappy.

Christ taught: The enemy that sowed tares among the wheat while men slept, is the devil.

The tares are there, we cannot overlook them nor deny their existence. Who then among ye all would deny the existence of the sower? In this way we would but assist him, the arch enemy, to sow his tares among our wheat.

But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.

But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? From whence then hath it tares?

He said unto them, the enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

Let both grow together until the harvest, and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Jesus taught and said unto the evil ones and the unbelievers:

The devil is your father and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, he is a liar and the father of it.

> Ye are of your father the devil and the deeds of your father ye will do: He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, Because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of lies

Paul taugnt:

Satan is a Prince, a mighty one; he is a powerful spirit who rules in the darkness of this world. There are spirits in the air and we must wrestle with them. Therefore we must not let ourselves be seduced by the evil spirits for they are everywhere, whereever they

can seize upon a weak soul who doubts; and for such as these doth the wrath of the Lord descend upon the children of unbelief.

Paul taught:

Satan is the Lord of this world, of the wicked and the unbelievers, who dazzles their sight so that they cannot see the bright light shed by the glorious gospel of Christ. It is therefore a devilish blindness not to believe in Jesus Christ.

> In whom the God of this world,
> hath blinded the minds of the
> unbelievers which believe not,
> lest the light of the glorious
> gospel of Christ,
> who is the image of God
> which will shine unto them.

Paul says:

Satan works out his ends with the unbelievers. The wicked are dead in trespasses and sins, even those who live according to the present spirit of the times, according to the Prince who rules in the air.

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who at this time worketh in the children of disobedience.

But God who is rich in mercy, for his great love, wherewith he loved us.

Even when we were dead in sins, Has quickened us together with Christ [by Grace ye are saved.]

Peter says:

Satan is the adversary of the pious and the believers, and he is their enemy, their tempter who never rests, and sly's and walketh about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. We should therefore be sober and vigilant and resist him steadfast in the faith.

Wohm resist steadfast in faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethern that are in the world.

John teaches:

Satan is the tempter who deceiveth the whole world. He is the originator of sin, he made the first beginnig of sin; and he it was who introduced sin into this world, and through the sin, the death.

He that committeth sin is of the devil. But Christ has come to destroy the works of the devil.

> He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifest, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

James teaches:

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Jesus hath given power to his people to cast out the devils and hath given them power over their enemies.

> Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out the devils: freely ye have received, freely ye shall give it.

> Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Paul advises us in his epistle to the Ephesians, and shows us the armour of God with which we are able to withstand in the evil days, and having done all, to stand; and taking the shield of faith we shall be able to quench, with it all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Therefore whosoever believes in the gospel of Jesus Christ and his apostles cannot doubt that the heart of man is either a Temple of God and of the Holy Ghost or a Workshop of Satan; Or that as God, Jesus, and the Holy Ghost dwell and works, and is supreme in the hearts of the believers, So doth Satan dwell in and rule over the wicked and the unbelievers.

All these biblical and Christian truths which have always been believed by the

Christian church will be represented, explained and exemplified in this book, by means of emblems and figures, in order to deter the wicked from sin, and the slavery of Satan, and to strengthen the pious in their faith.

EXPLANATION OF THE CHARTS AND PICTURES.

On every Chart there is a Heart With a Human Face.

From the condition of a man's heart which is the seat and place of activity and of all that is good or bad within him, the whole man can be judged. The face is the sign which the inner man puts up, so that we may know about the state of his mind. Therefore, dear reader, as you regard each picture, cast your eye into your own heart, examine it closely to learn the true state in which you are, whether Christ or Satan

rules over you, whether the Lord or the devil be your master, whether you are a slave of sin and Satan or a free child of God. Consider this matter seriously, do not pass over it indifferently. Be honest enough to confess to yourself and God, what you discover within your heart. You are before your God who examines the heart of man, who see's and knows everything, from whom nothing that is within you remains concealed. If you find evil within you repent it and do penance. Do not give way to despair. Confess it openly and turn to Christ for mercy. He is your Savior also, for you too has He come into this world to destroy the work of the devil to save you from the grasp of Satan and to receive you into His eternal kiugdom.

* * *

Paul says:

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be

partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light;

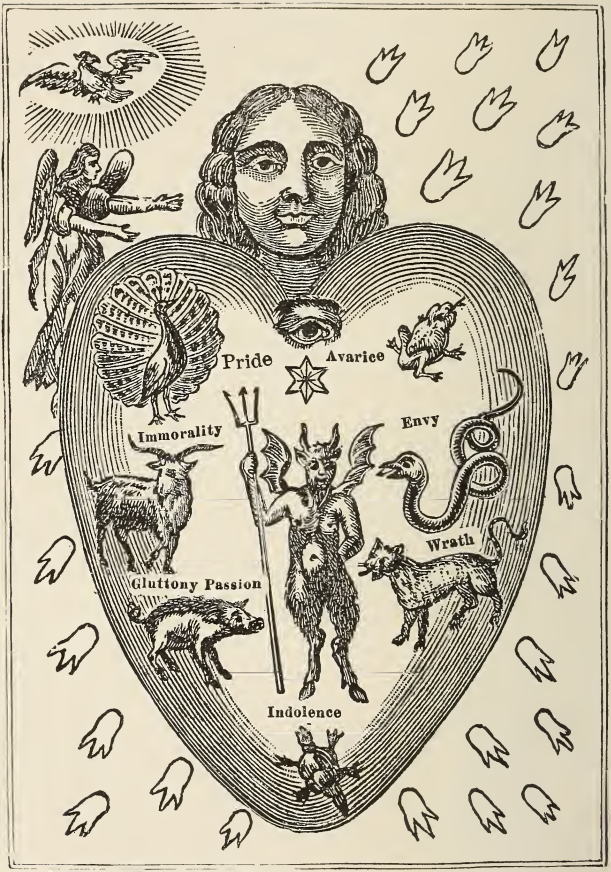
Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible.

And He can also endow you with power and strength, that you need no longer be a subject to Satan, nor serve sin any longer. He can make you free and when He makes you free, you will be truly free.



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Explanation of Pictures.

THE FIRST FIGURE.

THE PICTURE OF THE INTERIOR OF A HUMAN BEING WHO SERVES SIN AND PERMITS SATAN TO RULE HIM.

In this manner is the heart of a human being constituted who loves the world and gives himself up to sin, and who lives in accordance with the sentiment which now prevails in the world, and in accordance with the spirit which is at work in the wicked at the present time.

The face expresses the frivolity which hesitates at no sin, considers nothing as a sin, indulges in everything which the wicked heart desires and lives on heedlessly without thinking of God, eternity or the day of judgment.

In the Heart resides the devil with his suite, the seven deadly sins which are represented by the seven animals.

The Peacock with his long tail covert which he spreads like a fan exceeds in pride all other animals. He is therefore chosen as the emblem of Pride which induces so many, people to extol themselves and to boast of a few endowments, gifts, or mercies, of their riches, or beauty of person, or of some place of honor which God hath bestowed upon them, as if they were better than others, and to look down upon others, despise and oppress them.

The he-goat, a salacious, stinking animal, is the symbol of lust of uncleanliness, immodesty, dissoluteness and immorality.

The swine, the symbol of intemperance, gluttony drunkenness and passion.

The Toad, which feeds upon earth, represents avarice or covetousness, which leads man to unreasonably seek worldly goods and to be hard-hearted to those in distress.

The serpent, which betrayed and tempted our first parents, because it envied them their happiness, is the true symbol of envy and of the pleasure at the misfortune of others.

The Tiger is one of the most cruel and ferocious of animals, represents Anger and vindictiveness which lead man on to commit deeds which are peculiar to such cruel Animals.

The slow Tortoise is emblematical of sloth, or lukewarmness in the service of God which deprives man of all incentive and desire to do goob.

The Holy Ghost has been driven out of the heart and still he does not cease to offer to the sinner his gifts

and mercies which are represented by the tongues of fire that play around the heart. But he is not admitted to the hardened heart which is full of sin and entirely in the power and in the claws of Satan.

The good Angel or the mercy of Christ endeavors to awaken the sinner by the word of God and by other acts of mercy. But the sinner will not listen and takes nothing to heart because he is complettly intoxicatd by the lusts and pleasures of sin:

This is the horrible and ex-- tremely pitiable condition of a sinner who orders his life according to the prevailing spirit of the world.

Alas, how many people live on in this miserable state and think themselves safe, as if they were not in danger.

They call themselves Christians and are but servants of sin and slaves of the devil. They bear the name of Christian, they live, and yet they are dead.

PRAYER.

Allmerciful God and Savior, Look down with the eyes of thy boundless mercy upon the wretched condition of my poor sinful heart; illumine the eyes of my soul by the rays of Thy heavenly light. Bring light into my darkness, that I may see clearly the condition of my heart. And in Thy mercy grant that I may cast off all that clings to me of this wretched condition. Protect me, almighty Redeemer, that I may never again give over my soul of my own free will to sin, into the keeping of the arch-enemy, for him to use as his abode. keep this thought evermore before my mind: He who sins is a servant of sin, he is of the devil, aye even a child of Satan. As many vices as I give myself up to, even so many unclean spirits dwell within my

soul and defile it. Thou, O Lord, and Creator of all things, hast created my heart for Thine own use and hast destined it for Thine abode. How then could I deliver it unto Satan as his workshop?

Save me O Allpowerful, from the power of Satan, cleanse me from the defilement of sin. Take from me my unclean, sinful heart and create for me a new and pure heart and prepare for Thyself within me a dwelling pleasant unto Thine eyes for the glorification of Thy name, O Jesus.

Amen.

* * *

Jesus, my Advocate above
My Friend before the throne of love,
If now for me prevails Thy prayer,
If now I find Thee pleading there,
If Thou the secret wish convey,
And sweetly prompt my heart to pray,—
Hear, and my weak petitions join,
Almighty Advocate to Thine.
Save me from death; from hell set free;
Death, hell, are but the want of Thee:
My life, my only heaven Thou art;—
Oh, might I feel Thee in my heart!

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THE SECOND FIGURE.

THE PICTURE OF THE INTERIOR OF A MAN WHO DOES PENANCE AND BEGINS TO FLEE FROM THE SIN.

The exceeding Mercy of God and Christ,—which is here represented by the Angel,—plainly places before the eyes of the Sinner, the consequences and the wages of sin, which are the Sword, the Judgment, and death. He is convinced by the word of God that neither the Adulterers, nor the Effeminate, nor Thieves, nor the Murderers, nor Covetous, nor Drunkards, nor Revilers, nor Extortioners, that noth-

ing Unclean shall inherit the Kingdom of Heaven; And further that Distress and Fear, Indignation and Wrath shall come unto all those who do Evil.

And even as they did not like
to retain God in their knowledge,
God gave them over to a reprobate
mind to do those things
which are not convenient;

Being filled with all
unrighteousness, wickedness,
covetousness, maliciousness, full
of envy, murder, debate, deceit,
malignity; whisperers;

Backbiters, haters of God,
despiteful, proud, boasters,
inventors of evil things,
disobedient to parents.

Without understanding,
covenant — breakers,
without natural affection,
unplacable, unmerciful:

Who, knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same but have pleasure in them that do them.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.

But, after thy hardness and impenitent heart, treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God:

Who will render unto every man according to his deeds:

To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, and eternal life:

But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath.

For there is no respect of persons with God.

* * *

The sinner whose conscience has been aroused is led to reflect and to examine his heart carefully and finds nothing but sin and abominations.
With the aid of a higher light which now enters his soul he recognizes the enormity and shamefulness of sin.
He repents, he hates and despises sin; he would be free and rid of it; but he feels the power of sin, he knows his weakness and his inclination to sin, and he asks with a heartfelt sigh:

O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from this sinful body of death? And the Holy Ghost answers him: The Grace of God through Jesus Christ. For the Holy Ghost has again approached the repentant and stricken heart and enters it with flames of divine love giving unto it fresh light and strength.

O wretched Sinner that I am! who shall deliver me from this body of death?

And as the light of the Holy Ghost enters the heart and the rays of its mercy extend within it, even so must Satan with his evil following depart from it.

The shameful figures the horrible animals, the emblems of the vices flee. Whereever light enters, darkness must give way. As soon as the day breaks, night must disappear. Grace is the light, sin is darkness and night.

As soon as we begin to hate sin, Satan must yield, for he can rule only in sin and darkness.

He can enter our hearts only through sin. The love of sin gives him the key to it, and the adherence to evil clears the way for him and opens the door to let him in to your heart.

Love of God and of the good and the detestation of sin closes the doors to your heart upon him, and drives him away

O soul, love the light and hate the sin. Resist the evil, and Satan will fly from you Close your eyes to the world, to sin and all temptations and open your heart to the light of the Holy Ghost.

Let every ray of this divine light be welcome to you, for it banishes sin and darkness, Satan and hell from your heart. Examine your heart frequently to discover and cast out every trace of sin that may be hidden within it.

In the light of God which is ever waiting to be admitted to your heart, and enters it, and illumines and revives everything, as soon as it is admitted, in this Light of God you will recognize, and see in all its nastiness every wicked Animal every shadow of Sin, and God's grace which is powerful even in the Weak will set you free from it and preserve you from it.

PRAYER.

O Lord, Thou source of all light and of all life, only Thou, only the light of Thy spirit can show me sin in all its enormity and shamefulness. Let the light of life shine in my dark soul that I may see and live. Thou desirest

not the death of the sinner, nor my death, but as truly as Thou dost live, as truly dost Thou wish that I, a sinner, may be changed in spirit and live. Therefore reveal unto me the sin which dazzles my sight, kills me and keeps me in the slavery of Satan. Give to me Thy grace, which Thou hast promised so mercifully to all sinners. May it penetrate my heart, may it inflict upon it wholesome wounds and penitence, even so that sin, death and Satan may depart from me, and make way for Thee. Give unto me Thy Holy Ghost, that he may awaken within me the love of God, a desire to obey Thy commands and love for everything that is good, that sin may no longer dwell within my body and Satan may no longer be able to dazzle, tempt and overpower me. Let me see clearly and plainly that in sin there is no salvation, but that he who sins is a servant of sin, a child of hell and of darkness. Let me never forget what Thy word tells me: That the wicked are driven away in their wickedness and that the

unrighteous shall not inherit the Kingdom of God. That an eternal death, and eternal damnation awaiting all those, who remain wicked. Grant that every sin may be sincerely repented and frankly confessed by me, and that I may turn away from sin and all semblance of Evil, and turn unto Thee, that I may be cleansed of all sin, be set free from all power of darkness, and be made worthy of Thy Grace, Thy light, and Thy communion, and agreeable in Thy sight.

Amen.

With tears of anguish I lament
Here at Thy feet, my God,
My passion, pride and discontent,
And vile ingratitude.
Break, sov'reign Grace, oh, break
the charm, [power]
And set the captive free:
Reveal, Almighty God, Thine arm,
And haste to rescue me.

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THE THIRD FIGURE.

THE INNER CONDITION OF THE HEART OF A SINNER WHO IS BROUGHT TO BELIEVE IN CHRIST AND HIS GOSPEL AND IS FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST.

The Sinner who has become low-spirited and Humble by the Contemplation of his Sins and by the Patience and Forbearance of God which has Supported him so long and has finally led him to penitence, is in a state of sincere contrition and sheds Tears of true Repentance, His Heart is sore and he Regrets bitterly, That he has so often offended, despised and Misjudged God and

His great love, patience, and forbearance and has Served the devil so long.

When at last he is prepared by God's never-failing mercy, then what is written in the Holy-Scriptures will be fulfilled:

The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

God heals those who are of a broken heart. The Angel of Grace appears to the Sinner and reveals to him Jesus Christ, the Crucified, and His Gospel.

The joyous Message is Declared unto him that Christ has Come unto the World to Save such Sinners as he is one, that He has died for the Sinners, and has gained for them Forgiveness for their Sins and Eternal life.

The sinner with the contrite and stricken heart is now offered by God through Christ's mercy Forgiveness, Salvation, life and eternal Bliss.

If the sinner Accepts this offer with Faith and all due humility, if he take unto himself Jesus Christ, the Crucified, His life, His death, and His works, if he sincerely believe that all this has been done for his sake, that this has been given to him simply as an act of mercy then he will receive like all Believers in Christ the Holy-Ghost, and the Holy-Ghost will bear witness with his Spirit that his sins have been forgiven and that he is now a child of God.

For the Holy-Ghost fills the Heart with P e a c e, J o y and R i g h t e o u s n e s s, and thus hath he truly entered into the K i n g d o m of G o d.

Tears are still flowing, but now they are tears of Gratitude, Joy and Affection for Him who delivered him from all Evil and filled him with His spirit. His heart and his flesh cry out for the living God The Star in his heart s h i n e s; Because his Faith has been awakened.

The Enemies of his Salvation, all the horrible animals, Satan and his following, all have now disappeared from his heart and these words of the H o l y-S c r i p t u r e now applys to him:

And such were some of you: but ye are Justified in the Name of our Lord Jesus, and by the spirit of our God.

O how Glorious, how Blissful and how Gratifying is the condition of the heart of such a Pardoned Sinner. He would like to sing one Hymn of Praise after another. He cannot rejoice Sufficiently in his Savior and His Mercy, nor can he find words Sufficient to admire and thank Him for His love and Mercy.

But with all his Joy he must Remain in a constant state of wholesome Fear and Watchfulness, for though the Beasts — which represent the Sins — are outside his Heart, — and Satan has lost all Claim and Power over him, — still the arch fiend is not far off, and he and sin are on watch Day and Night to return whence they had been driven.

Satan is the more Incensed, the more he has lost. Therefore watch and pray that ye may not fall into Temptation and return to your former Sins.

PRAYER.

Blessed Savior, how can I enjoy Sufficiently Thy grace and love, how thank Thee Sufficiently for Thy glorious Gospel! Thou hast Permitted me to find Salvation through Thy blood According to Thy mercy, which is Forgiveness of all my sins. Thou hast given me the earnest of the Spirit in my Heart and hast Sealed me unto the day of Redemption. Strengthen my Faith, I pray Thee, enlighten the Eyes of my mind more and more that I may learn to value the Treasures, the Spirit, all the Heavenly Blessings which Thou hast Secured for me by Thy Sufferings and death and which Thou offerest to me in Thy Gospel. O, how hast Thou Enriched, Blessed and favored me! I who formerly was possessed by Satan am now a Temple of the Holy-Ghost. I, formerly a slave of sin, am now a child of God. I formerly a dwelling-place of Unclean spirits,

Am now a thing of joy for the angels. I in whom sin formerly raged, and Satan ruled, now feel nothing but joy, Peace, and Righteousness in the Holy-Spirit which dwells within me and is given me by God. The enemies of Salvation have been routed, the bonds which held me fast in the Slavery of Sin and Satan have been broken, and I am free through the mercy of Christ. I have found grace. How can I thank Thee? Thy praise shall ever be on my lips.

One thing more I ask of Thee, O blessed Savior, leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my Salvation. Teach my Heart to fear Thy name.

Grant that I may not grow heedless, but keep watch all the time, so that I may Never again be Caught with guilt by the Enemy nor be Deceived by sin. May Thy Grace strengthen my Heart that it may ever abhor sin and flee, from every Opportunity for Sin. Thou hast made me free, and I pray Thee never let me be a Slave of Sin again.

Thou hast Sanctified my heart; never again let it be Defiled and desecrated. May my heart remain a Temple of the Holy-Ghost, a Seat and dwelling place of Peace and Joy and Righteousness in the Holy-Ghost.

Amen.

My God, the Spring of all my joys,
The Life of my delights,
The Glory of my brightest days,
And Comfort of my nights;
In darkest shades, if He appear,
My dawning is begun;
He is my soul's sweet Morning Star,
And he my rising Sun.

The opening heavens around me
Shine with beams of sacred bliss,
When Jesus shows His heart is mine,
And whispers, I am His.

My soul would leave this heavy clay
At that transporting word,
Run up with joy the shining way,
To embrace my dearest Lord.
Fearless of hell and ghastly death,
I'd break through every foe;
The wings of love and arms of faith
Should bear me conqueror through.

THE FOURTH FIGURE.

SHOWING A VIEW OF THE HEART OF A MAN WHO BY THE GRACE OF CHRIST HAS BEEN RECONCILED TO GOD AND KNOWS NOTHING BUT CHRIST, AND HIM CRUCIFIED.

Nothing can be seen now in the Heart of the pardoned Sinner but Jesus the Crucified, and the marks of His Sufferings.

For the Holy-Ghost who now rules and leads him, and into whose Guidance he has given himself cannot inflame his Heart in love in any better way than by Presenting to him constantly Jesus and

He that overcometh shall inherit all things. Revela. 21, 7.
But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ by whom the world is crucified unto me and I unto the world.
INRI

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His sufferings on the Cross, and by constantly Reminding him how great the sufferings of Jesus, His Redeemer were, that he might be Saved.

The Presentation of the Death of Jesus and keeping alive the Memory of His sufferings is therefore the Principal Occupation of the pardoned Sinner.

With Paul the pardoned sinner say: For I Determine not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him Crucified.—But God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the World is crucified unto me, and I unto the World.

He finds under the Guidance of the Holy-Ghost so much Consolation and strength in the Death and Sufferings of his Redeemer, that his whole Heart is filled with it.

If God is for me, he says, who can be against me? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us All;

How shall He not with him also freely give us All things?!

> Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that Justifieth.
>
> Who is He that Condemneth? It is Christ that Died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh Intercession for us.

The Death and the Suffering of Jesus is a surety [an earnest] for him of the Everlasting Love of God and that God was in Christ, Reconciling the World unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them.

> But them that are without God, will be Judgeth. Therefore put away from among Yourselves that who is wicked.

Christ who was Crucified is now the Reason of the penitent's Trust in God, and His eternal love. If God the Father could give over his Son to such Sufferings for our Sake what is there He could deny us?

And since in this way Christ who was Crucified has become his own and Dwells within his Heart, he finds in him the most Abundant Source not only of all Consolation but of all Power for good. This thought, the living Faith in Christ, and His Sufferings makes him loathe all worldly Pleasure, All fleshly lusts, All earthly glory, and All things that pass away.

It seems to him as if Jesus were calling to him all the time:

If thou wilt follow me and be my Disciple, take up thy Cross, deny thyself and follow me.

And he that taketh not his Cross, and followeth after me, is not Worthy of me. He cannot be my Disciple.

His Principal aim in Life will then be:

To become like unto Christ. For that Purpose he exercises himself unto Godliness, He seeks after the Holiness, without which no one will See the Lord.

Look ye Diligently lest any man
Fail of the Grace of God;

lest any root of Bitterness springing up,
trouble you, and thereby
Many be defiled.

He Cleanses himself from all filthiness of the Flesh and Spirit, perfecting Holiness in the fear of God.

He prays without Ceasing and Continues his Prayer and Supplication in the Spirit.

And he prays always with all Supplications.

And for me, that
Utterance may be given unto me,
That I may open my mouth boldly,
to make known the Mystery of the
Gospel.

Nor doth he forget to do good
and to communicate:
for, with such Sacrifices God is
well pleased.

Obey your Preachers and
Teachers and follow them.
then they have the rule over you,
and Submit yourselves:
for they watch for your Souls,
as they that must give Account,
that they may do it with Joy,
and not with Grief;
for that is unprofitable for you.

He rejoices if he is found worthy to Suffer Reproaches, Persecutions, Afflictions, and Humiliations for the sake of Jesus Christ, for he knows that even as we suffer so shall we be Glorified. In short, for the sake of Him who offered Himself up for us all, he overcomes All; for he looks forward to the Reward which is great and in which All will participate who perservere in the Struggle.

He that overcometh will inherit All.

Thus it Resounds in his Ears; therefore he forgets what lies behind him and looks forward to what is before him, to the Prize, of the heavenly calling of God in Christ Jesus.

PRAYER.

O Jesus, my Beloved, Thou hast Reconciled me unto God,
Thou alone shalt henceforth be found within my Heart. To Thee and to the Memory of Thy sufferings

and Death, my heart shall be Consecrated and my whole Life be Devoted, May the Love with which Thou hast Loved me be within me, penetrate my Soul, Govern my Senses, and rule me in everything. May it renew me according to Thine Image, that I may be wholly like unto you, and your Sufferings and death, may be seen in me.

O give unto me the proper spirit that I may now Count all things but loss, which were formerly Gain to me, aye, that everything may be as offscouring and refuse in Comparison with the Incomparable knowledge of Thee.

Be Thou all unto me And everything else count for nothing, that I may be Found worthy of Thee, that I may not Depend on my Righteousness which cometh from the laws, but that I may Possess Thy righteousness which was given unto me for my Faith in Thee and which alone is of God, that I may see the Power of thy Resurrection and the Fellowship of the Mystery until at last I can say:

I am Crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.

Aye, my dearly Beloved Savior, let me look unto Thee in Sincerity, Thou, the Author and finisher of my Faith; who for the Joy that was set before Thee, Endureth the Cross, Despising the shame.

May Thy life be the sweet Pasture of my Soul, Thy Cross my strength in striving against Sin, Thy Death my Refuge in Affliction and Death.

In every Trial will I look to Thee. May Thy love be my Sun and Shield, my Light and Spur, That I may not grow Tired and Weary by the Way, but run with patience the Race that is set before me.

Amen.

Oh, that I could forever Dwell,
Delighted at the Savior's feet;
Behold the form I love so well
And all His tender words repeat.
The world Shut out from all my
Soul,

And Heaven brought in with all its Bliss,—Ah! is there any thing from Pole to Pole, one Moment to Compare with this?

This is the hidden life I prize,
A life of Penitential Love;
When most my follies I Despise,
And raise my highest thoughts
Above;

When all I am I clearly see,
And Freely own with Deepest shame; When the Redeemer's love to me Kindles within a deathless
Flame.

Thus would I live till Nature fail, And all my former sins Forsake; Then rise to God within the veil, And of eternal joys
Partake.

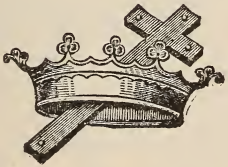
* * *

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to sing My dear Redeemer's Praise; The Glories of my God and King, The Triumphs of His grace!

My gracious master and my God, Assist me to proclaim, To spread through all the earth abroad The Honors of Thy name.

Jesus, the name that calms our Fears, That bids our Sorrows cease; T'is Music in the sinner's ears; T'is Life, and Health, and Peace.

He breaks the Power of Reigning sin, He sets the Pris'ner free; His blood can make the foulest Clean; His blood availed for me.



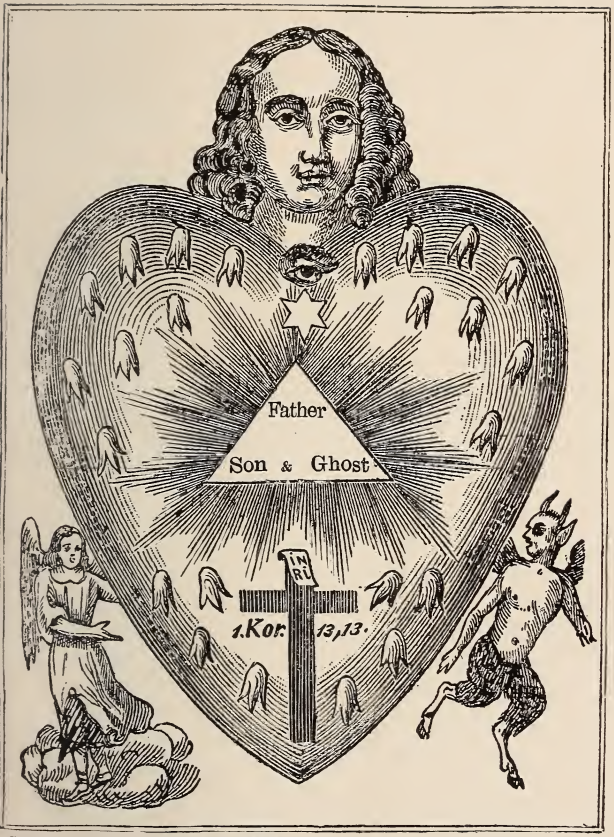
THE FIFTH FIGURE.

THE INNER CONDITION OF A GODLY MAN. HIS HEART A TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD, THE ABIDING PLACE OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

Now the Holy-Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy-Ghost, appear in the Heart of the Sinner who has been admitted to Grace and has been Sanctified by the Holy-Ghost.

Christ says:

He that Loveth me shall be Loved of my Father, we will come to him, and I will love him, and will Manifest myself to him.



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Such an Honor and Glory shall come unto the Christian who has been Reconciled to God and washed from his Sins in the blood of Christ and who therefore in gratitude loves Christ, his Redeemer, above All, and because he Loves him and keeps his Commands.

The Everlasting God enters within him. He is loved by the Father for the sake of the Son and is Visited by the Father. The Father and Son and Holy-Ghost dwell within him Forevermore.

Therefore doth Paul write:

Know ye not that ye are the Temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth within you?

So if any man defile the Temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the Temple of God is Holy, which Temple ye are.

And further on Paul writes to the Corinthians:

Ye are the Temple of the living God; as God hath said:

I will Dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my People.

And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my Sons and Daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Besides the Holy-Trinity we can also see the Cross of Christ in the Heart, for this the true Christian can never forget, nor be without in Mind or Heart.

The sufferings and Death of Jesus, the Crucified, His Mercy, will always remain the Foundation, on which he builds, and on which he rests his Faith and Hope. It Remains the source of his Love.

He may look upon the Father or the Son or the Holy-Ghost within Him, he may be ever so firmly United with God, his state of Bliss may be ever so great, yet he will always reflect and ask himself: How did I Miserable Sinner come by this undeserved Mercy? — Answer: Through Christ who was Crucified and who by his Death Reconciled me with God.

He it is who preserved me from Sin, Damnation and death by His Cross and

gained for me Mercy, Salvation and life. By His grace and His Mercy I am as I am.

Instead of the seven deadly Sins which filled his Heart to the exclusion of Christ, and made of it a Workshop of the Devil, we now see in it the virtues Apposed to them, namely: Humility, Love, Liberality, Chastity, Charity, Temperance in Eating and Drinking, Meekness, Diligence.

Who would not then Try with all his Might to observe the words and Commands of Christ, to love Him, to emulate Him, to be like unto Him. For are not great things Promised unto him that observeth his Word, even that God will enter such a Heart and abide there?

O let us love Him, because He first loved us, saith John who rested upon His Bosom. For Love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God, and God is with Him.

Even now we can Approach so near to God, even here God Decends so far to us and into us.

Let us try our Utmost to be worthy of this Great and sublime Guest and ever to walk in His presence and be Submissive to Him. Let us always Dwell within ourselves, even as God Dwelleth within Us.

Everything outside of us is nothing, is Perishable. The whole World passeth away with All its glory; but God, Christ within us, is Everlasting and if we cling unto Him we will be a spirit with Him.

He himself hath made us the sweetest and most Glorious Promises that we Ourselves should partake of the Divine spirit if we would shun the perishable pleasures of this World.

O let us believe in Him and cling to Him as if we could see him.
Whosoever believeth in Him hath eternal life even here on earth.

PRAYER.

All-powerful and all merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our Father too, How

greatly dost Thou love man
How much hast Thou loved and blessed and given joy unto me in Thy Son, Jesus Christ. Thou wilt Dwell within me, and stay in me and I in Thee.

How near Thou art to me
How closely Related and how near I am to Thee. I shall be Filled with the Fulness of God.

And to know the Love of Christ which passeth all Knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the Fulness of God.

Should I not love Thee with all my Soul, with all my Heart, with all my Strength? O grant to me this Love! Let me be all Love, even as Thou art all Love. Grant that I may be Filled with Thy Presence, may be ever closer and closer United unto Thee. Let nothing ever Separate me again from Thy Love.

Preserve my Heart for Thy everlasting Dwelling. Draw my spirit unto Thee, that I may love only Thee, and Cling only to Thee; That I may regard everything but Thee as nothing, that I may See only Thee and find only Thee

in all that is About me. that I may do and Suffer all for Thy sake, that Thou mayest be all in all to me, O Thou God of my Heart, Thou, only portion in Eternity.

Amen.

God is Love; His mercy brightens All the Path in which we rove; Bliss He wakes and woe He lightens; God is Wisdom, God is love.

Chance and change are busy ever; Man Decays, and Ages move; But His mercy waneth never; God is Wisdom, God is love.

Even the Hour that darkest seemeth, Will His changeless goodness prove; From the gloom His brightness streameth, God is Wisdom, God is love.

He with Earthly cares entwineth Hope and Comfort from above: Everywhere His glory shineth; God is Wisdom, God is love.

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THE SIXTH FIGURE.

THE CONDITION OF THE HEART OF A MAN WHOSE ZEAL HAS AGAIN GROWN COLD, AND WHO LEARNS TO LOVE THE WORLD AGAIN.

You see in this Figure a Human-Face which looks about boldly with one eye, while the other eye has a sleepy expression. In the heart the signs of the Sufferings of Jesus have grown less, the spark of grace is extinguished, the Star which is the Faith is growing Darker and has lost its Light and Brilliancy.

The Meaning of all this is that, when man becomes Lukewarm and Indolent in

Faith, when he grows Negligent in Prayer and watchfulness and looks more upon the vanities of the World, and indulges more in the lusts, honors and Pleasures of the World. If, as cannot be otherwise, he thinks less and less of the Sufferings of his Savior, looks less and less frequently to the Crucified One, the Author and Finisher of his Faith, and gradually loses Him from his heart: Then the fervour of Devotion will be Extinguished, the Love for Christ will grow cold, grace will Disappear, Faith will die out.

His Heart will become Gloomy, dark, cold and dry and he himself will become Indolent and Despondent. And what will happen then?

The World, which is Represented by the man with the Dagger, again enters his Heart forcibly. As he no longer has any Strength in Faith, no courage, no bright light, no Love, he fears the threads of the World, or he is Deceived by flatteries and Temptations, and again learns to love the World.

While he is in this condition Satan again Returns and drags and carries all the old beasts back into the Heart. And

he Succeeds all the easier in this, because he no longer finds a Guard nor meets with any Resistance, because the man has grown Indolent and Negligent in his Prayers and no longer avoids the Opportunity for Sin but Exposes himself voluntarily to the Danger.

It is true, the Angel or the Mercy of Christ tries to drive away Satan, but as man Himself has opened the door wide to him, through sin, does not watch or pray nor Cooperates faithfully with Grace, Sin again enters his Heart and through Sin Satan regains his Foothold.

The words of Christ are therefore applicable in this case:

Watch and Pray, that ye enter not into Temptation. Pray without Ceasing.

Prayer is the soul of the Christian faith and Life. When Prayer ceases, everything that is good ceases. Prayer is the spiritual breath.

When that ceases or grows weaker everything that is good dies out. In the same way if we do not watch, we grow Indolent, the enemy comes and sows tares among the wheat.

An Unguarded and unarmed Heart is open to the attacks of all Enemies, which are Sin and Satan.

Therefore let the sacred Guard, Prayer and sincere Devotion and Faith in Christ who was Crucified never leave your Soul, never sleep, that nothing Unclean may enter the Temple of God and defile it, lest God shall destroy you.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary, the devil, walketh about, as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour:

Whom resist steadfast in the faith.

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall. We must never put off the armor which Paul described so beautifully in his Epistle to the Ephesians. For as he says in the twelfth verse of the sixth chapter:

For we wrestle not against Flesh and Blood, but against Principalities, against powers, against the Rulers of the Darkness of this World, against

Spiritual wickedness in high places, with the evil spirits under the Heavens which pursue us with fiery Darts. these we can extinguish only with the shield of Faith.

Faith must therefore always remain firm and Alive, Love remain fervent. This can only be if we never lose sight of Jesus and His Sufferings, if we turn our Eyes away from the World and its Temptations, if we close our Eyes resolutely to all Allurements of Sin, and ever be Near God, and always, be watching for the Mercies of God and the Promptings of the Holy-Ghost.

Faith loses all its Strength, Light, Life and Love will grow cold if the Foundation on which they rest, Jesus the Crucified, leaveth the Heart.

PRAYER.

O Lord, Thou who knowest the hearts of all men, knowest also me. Thou knowest my Weakness, Do not leave me, O Lord, do not take Thy hand from me.

The Inconstancy of my Heart which so easily grows cold in Love and weak in Faith. Thou knowest how much I am inclined to Sin, how much I fear and Abhor all Trouble and Exertion, all Earnestness in self-denial and Watchfulness over my Heart. Strengthen me, give me fresh Life, and keep me steadfast in my Faith, for without Thee I can do nothing. I cannot remain with Thee, if Thou dost not support me and remain with me.

Do not permit the Light within me to be Extinguished, nor the Love to grow cold, nor my trust to be unsteady nor my Faith to perish.

Grant me always fresh Strength and Love for Prayer, grant me Boldness with which to look to Thee; Give to my Eye everlasting Vigilance that it may look to Thee steadfastly and that I may ever Contemplate Thy Sufferings. Turn my Eyes away, I pray Thee, that they may not look upon the Vanities of this World.

Amen.

Go to dark Gethsemane,
Ye that feel the tempter's power,
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away,
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall,
View the Lord of life arraign'd;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh! the pangs his soul sustain'd!
Shun not suff'ring, shame or loss
Learn of Him to bear the Cross.

Calv'ry's mournful Mountain
climb;
There, adoring at His feet,
God's own Sacrifice complete:
„It is finished," hear him cry:
Learn of Jesus Christ to die.

Early hasten to the Tomb
Where they laid his breathless clay—
All is solitude and gloom—
Who hath taken Him away?
Christ is risen; He meets our eyes!
Savior, teach us so to rise.

THE SEVENTH FIGURE.

THE HEART OF A MAN WHO AFTER HIS CONVERSION AGAIN SINS WILFULLY, AND PERMITS SIN AND SATAN TO RULE OVER HIM.

This Picture represents the Heart of a sinner whom Christ describes as follows in the Gospel according to the Apostle. St. Luke, Chapter XI, 24 — 26:

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places seeking Rest; and finding none, he saith to himself, I will return unto my house whence I came out.

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And when he cometh, he findeth it Swept and Garnished.

Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other, wicked spirits worse than himself; and they enter in, and Dwell there; and the L a s t state of that man is worse than the F i r s t.

What a horrible Sight it is: Satan again Dwells and rules and Governs in the Heart which formerly was the Dwelling of God, the Temple of the Holy-Ghost.

The old sins and Abominations are again to be seen There, the horrible Animals have again obtained a Foothold and act as if they were at home. And what is the Reason for this state of affairs? The man did not heed the Mercies that were offered him, forgot to cleanse himself of his Sins, and did not Exercise himself in Godliness and Holiness.

And he who does not abvance must go backward. There is no standing still. He who does not strive Earnestly to enter the straight Gate, does not walk on steadfastly and Courageously on the narrow road, is not Diligent in hating sin, does not Try to portify himself in his

Hatred of the World and its Pleasures, and does not carefully avoid all Opportunities for Sin, he will in a short time be drawn by the wiles of Satan, and the Allurements of sin and the Pleasures of the World back into their Snares again, and as the Apostle Peter says the proverb will become true.

„The Dog is turned to his own vomit again; and, The [Swine] that was washed to her wallowing in the mire."

The meaning of this is that the Indolent and heedless Man falls back into his old Sins and gives himself up to his evil P l e a s u r e s and D e s i r e s as formerly.

T h e H o l y - G h o s t flees, for how can G o d's holy-Spirit dwell together with the unclean Spirit?
How can the same Heart be at once a Temple of God and a Dwelling place of the Devil?

The Angel,— or the Grace, leaves sadly, but with his Hands raised up high to indicate that Christ still has pity with the miserable Sinner and seemingly implores him:

O, if thou wouldst but recognize what is necessary for thy Peace! The heart of thy all—merciful God, His strong arm is still open to receive thee. Return, O thou Rebellious one, I will have mercy on thee once more.

But he no longer hears. He looks boldly out into the wicked World and no longer Regards anything, neither secret nor public Sin or Shame. He sees not the bottomless Pit into which he is falling nor knows the abominations that are within his Heart, for his Faith is dead, the Star has lost all its Light and Satan has blinded his eyes.

Regard this Picture well, beloved Brother. Thus it is with you when you have acknowledged, Confessed, and Repented your Sins and have obtained Forgiveness, and then do not Guard yourself against Sin with God's grace but boldly Embrace it again.

After that it is worse than ever, for Sin and Satan take a firmer hold and rage more Violently in you than before and you are now reduced to a state of complete Subjection and Slavery to them.

Beware therefore of a relapse into your old Sins and bad Habits.

If you have once obtained Grace, have forsworn Sin and Satan, declared war upon Pride, Covetousness, Lust, Anger, Gluttony, Envy, and Sloth, remain their sworn Enemy and do not let them ever again spring up within your Heart.

Fly from them wherever you can, for at the first chance they will try to Return within your Heart, take up their old quarters and assert their former Privileges, and if you grant them Admittance and permit them to Abide within you, the end will be worse than the Beginning.

Place your trust in God who is Powerful enough to help you, and to Aid you in securing Victory over your Enemies.

Even though you fall, rise up quickly again and struggle on. Above all, never conclude Peace with Sin. Always grasp the hand of your Redeemer.

He can and will help you. His Arm is not too short. He is the Stronger; He can bind and cast out that powerful Enemy Satan, and take his victim away from him and set you free again.

Why then should you permit your Heart to become a Dwelling place of the Devil or to remain such, when it could be a Temple of God.

PRAYER.

All merciful God, who art my father; I am Thy creature, for Thou hast created me. Christ, my Redeemer, I am Thine; Thou, my Savior, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and Righteousness, and Sanctification, and Redemption.

Thou sittest also for me on the right hand of God, God the Father, hast also for me all Power in Thy hand to save me from Sin, Death and Satan, even though I am their Prisoner and Slave. Thou hast received Gifts for those who have rebelled, and for me also when I desert Thee.

Thou hast pity on me and all Sinners, dost not cast off any one who turns unto Thee.

See, here am I and cry unto Thee: Have pity, have Mercy, Thou wilt and canst save all. None is too deep in the Pit for thee, Thou canst and wilt Drag him out.

Set me free from the Slavery of Sin and Satan. No longer shall Sin and Satan rule within me.

To Thee belongs my Heart. Thou hast purchased it with Thy blood It is Thine; Thou canst not deliver it to any one else. Send Thy light that Darkness may Depart; Give to me Thy spirit that Satan may be put to flight Grant me Thy Mercy that Sin may lose its sting. Bruise Satan under my feet and Destroy his Power. Let me be free.

Amen.

O Lord, Thy heavenly Grace impart,
And fix my frail, inconstant Heart;
Henceforth my chief desire shall be
To dedicate myself to Thee.
„Whate'er pursuits my time employ,"
One thought Shall fill my soul with joy;
That silent, Secret thought shall be,
That all my Hopes are fixed on Thee.
Thy glorious eye pervadeth space;
Thy presence, Lord, fills every place;
And whatsoever my lot may be,
Still shall my Spirit cleave to Thee.
Renouncing ev'ry worldly thing,
And safe beneath Thy spreading Wing,
My sweetest thought henceforth Shall be
That all I want I find in Thee.

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THE EIGHTH FIGURE.

THE SORROWFUL END OF THE UNGODLY MAN.

THE DEATH OF THE UNGODLY AND THE WAGES OF SIN.

The unrepentant Sinner is now on his Deathbed, his body racked with Pains, his mind full of trials and Tribulations, full of Fear and Horror, of Death, full of Despair at the approaching Judgment.

He is entirely Deserted. without all Help, incapable of being Consoled, because he does not believe in God and does not know his Redeemer. Death is now before him and threatens to take from him everything; all pleasures, Wealth, Honors,

Lusts, everything in fact to which he has clung in all his Life.

Satan reproaches him with his Sins. At first he Tempted him to commit Them, telling him how beautiful and pleasant Sin was; now Satan frightens him with it, terrifies his Conscience, and Shows to him the Wages of sin which await him, which are:

Eternal Damnation, Everlasting Destruction, and endless Tortures of Hell.

Despairingly he looks about him and sees nothing but Horrible-Forms wherever he looks.

Within him his Conscience tortures him. It has been slumbering until this time, but has now awakened again and fills him with unspeakable dread and fear.

He sees Hell and the pit open before him, sees how it is ready to receive him and swallow him up for ever. He can no longer hear anything that is good, for he has long since closed his Heart against all impressions of good, has hardened it through Sin, and has become deaf to the Voice of God.

He turns away from the good spirit, from Grace, and from the Angel. For that reason the Angel also leaves him and leaves him to Despair which he has embraced of his own free will.

Then he dies and appears before the Judgment-Seat of God. There he sees Christ whom he despised in Life, whose Word he did not or would not listen to or to whom he proved Unfaithful, whose Mercy he despised, and whom he trod under Foot. Now he hears from the lips of the Judge his irrevocable Sentence:

Depart from me, thou Accursed, into everlasting Fire.

Thus Are Sin, and the Pleasures of the World Rewarded.

Cast out and Condemned by God, forever shut out from Heaven and banished for all time from the Presence of God, he now falls into the pit, into a state of Everlasting sorrow, into a fire which is never Quenshed, while a worm gnaws at him, which never Dies.

Alas, how many Men are hastening towards this Eternal destruction. How

many who call themselves Christians and pretend to be such, serve Sin, lusts, their shameful Desires, give themselves up to Avarice or Extravagance, to Pride or Envy, to Mockery, to Lewdness, to Indolence, to Anger, to Intemperance, to Gluttony, and in general to high living.

They may perhaps even go so far as to Confess their Sins, but they do not do this in order to improve themselves, they do it only from Habit. they Sin again and continue in their evil Habits, Confess again, Sin again, and continue thus until their End, without ever changing their minds, without ever Repenting their Sins sincerely, without turning with all their Heart to Christ, their Redeemer, without seeking His Mercy and Grace.

They continue Confessing, partaking of the Communion, going to Church, listening to Sermons and other acts of Devotion, and yet they always remain the same as they were before:

Servants of Sin, Children of the world Slaves of the Devil are they all. And the more they Participate in religious Devotions, the more they depend on them as if it were not necessary for them to

change their Hearts and to convert themselves in Truth.

Then Death steps in Unexpectedly and carries them off and as they sowed to the flesh they shall of the flesh reap Corruption; for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

Death has the greatest Horrors for those who have at some time partaken of Mercy but have not taken care of it, have once known Christ, but did not remain with Him and instead have deserted Him and have again embraced the World and Sin.

For as Paul says:

For if we sin wilfully after that we have Received the Knowledge of the Truth, there remaineth no more Sacrifice for Sins, but a certain fearful looking for of Judgment and fiery indignation which shall Devour the Adversaries.

Then it is Impossible for those who were once Enlightened, and have tasted of the Heavenly Gift, and were made partak-

ers of the Holy-Ghost, and have tasted the good Word of God, and the Powers of the coming World, if they shall fall Away, to renew them again, into Repentance; seeing they Crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

O ye Sinners, ye who give Yourselves up to your Passions, did ye but know what it is that ye love.

Ye love Death and Destruction. what pleases you now will be a Torture to you later on.

Consider your wicked Ways and hate Evil! Renounce Pleasure and Sin, for they are your Destruction.

Listen to the gentle Voice of your good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, who calls to you:

Come unto me,— my blood will cleanse you from your Sins! I forgive you and will save you. I give unto my flock the eternal Life.

Do not Close your Hearts to these

Words of your good Shepherd, lest ye may hear the Voice of the Judge in tones of Thunder:

Depart from me, ye accursed, into Everlasting fire.

It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will Recompense, saith the Lord.

PRAYER.

O Lord, Thou art just and all Thy Judgments are just. Thou art no Respecter of Person, Thou wilt reward every man according to his Works. He who does not do penance, does not believe Thy word nor keep it, he is already Judged, he will see neither Life nor the Kingdom of Heaven, but will remain in Death for all time. Good as Thou art to the Righteous and the Faithful, so art Thou terrible to the Unrepentant Sinner who does not turn to Thee.

O my Lord and Savior! Thou hast redeemed me from Sin, from Death and Hell. Give me strength that I may turn my Heart entirely away from Sin and to Thee while there is still time. Stir me up that I may be delivered from Death and may receive Eternal Life.

Bow down my Heart that I may do Penance eagerly, may follow the teachings of Thy Spirit, and by Thy spirit be Recreated into a new and different Man, and then live and die for Thee.

Amen.

With tears of anguish I lament,
Here at Thy feet, my God,
My passion, pride, and discontent,
And vile ingratitude.

Sure there was ne'er a Heart so base
So false as mine has been:
So faithless to its promises,
So prone to every Sin!

How long, dear Savior shall I feel
These strugglings in my Breast?
When wilt Thou bow my stubborn will
And give my conscience rest?

Break, sov'reign Grace, oh break the charm, and set the captive free: Reveal, Almighty God, Thine arm, And haste to rescue me.

* * *

O heavenly Father, Thou knowest my failings and my sufferings How easily can they be changed into joys if Thou wilt it. The load which Thou hast given me to bear cannot bear me down. If my Heart only carries it willingly Thou wilt soon make me happy.

THE NINTH FIGURE.

THE INNER CONDITION OF THE HEART OF A CHRISTIAN WHO PERSEVERES IN HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST SIN, AND EXERCISES HIMSELF UNTO GODLINESS UP TO THE END.

In this Picture, dear Reader, you can see how the Heart of the Christian is surrounded on all sides by Enemies, Satan and Sin are constantly lying in wait for us and try to regain their former Supremacy in the Heart.

In the lower part of the Picture you see two Men who represent the World. One of these invites you to sensual

No one will be crowned, lest he act righteously.
He that endureth to the end shall be saved.
Who is like God?
Who will take away from me the love of Jesus Christ
Jesus
My Love.
Evangelium

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Pleasures and worldly Enjoyments by offering you a cup filled with some intoxicating Beverage. The other tries to deter you from Righteousness and to seduce you to a sinful Life with a drawn Dagger by means of threats, persecutions revilings, and other forcible means.

With these Enemies of Salvation, with the lusts of the flesh, with the World. and with Satan the Christian will always have to struggle in this World. But his Heart is steeled against their attacks and they can do nothing to him.

Over him hovers the Angel, the Grace of God, which constantly encourages him in his struggle and calls upon him to be steadfast by saying to him: No one will be crowned except he strive lawfully; he who Perseveres until the End will be Saved.

And fear not them which kill the Body, but are not able to kill the Soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both Soul and Body in Hell.

But in the Heart of the true Christian the Star shines brightly and beautifully,

that is, Faith is alive in him.

This is the Victory that overcometh the World, even our Faith.

He is full of Confidence, full of Trust in God. Therefore it is written on one side of his Heart; Who is like God?

God is with me and I am of Him, and through Him I can do anything. His Grace is Sufficient to me.

But on the other side is seen: Who shall separate us from the Love of Jesus Christ?

Not Tribulation, or Distress, or Persecution, or Famine, or Nakedness, or Peril or Sword.

In all these things we are more than Conquerors through Him that loved us.

Faith and Love therefore are uppermost in his Heart and fortify us in all that is Righteous.

In the middle of the Heart can be seen the Holy-Host with these Words inscribed about it: Jesus, my Love.

That indicates his great Hunger for the true Spiritual Nourishment, for the Bread of Life which cometh down from Heaven and giveth light unto the World.

With this living and invigorating Bread he nourishes and strengthens his Faith and Love by frequently partaking of the Holy Sacrament. He finds in this Food the greatest strength, everlasting Life, even as Jesus hath promised him: He that eateth my Flesh, and drinketh my Blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him, he has the everlasting Life.

But Jesus saith:

Whoso eateth my Flesh, and drinketh my Blood, hath eternal Life, and I will raise him up at the last day.

For my Flesh is meat indeed, and my Blood is drink indeed.

He that eateth my Flesh, and drinketh my Blood, dwelleth in me and I in him.

As the living Father hath sent me, And I live by the Father;

so he that eateth my flesh even he shall live by me.

You can furthermore see in the Heart Christ who was Crucified, and an open Book, the Gospel, the Holy Scriptures. For the Reading and Consideration of the Word of God, of the Holy Scriptures, particularly of the Sufferings and Death of Jesus, will always be his most Pleasant Occupation and afford him the greatest Enjoyment, as with them he stays and comforts his Soul so that he may arm and Strengthen himself against the World and Sin, against the lusts of the flesh and Satan.

He who does not have Jesus, the Crucified, in his Heart and keep Him there, he is dead while he liveth; and he who does not love the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures, the Gospel above all other Books, does not Read and Consider it rather than all others, does not prefer it to all other Knowledge, does not make it the rule and Guidance of his Conduct, he certainly is dangerously Sick at Heart if not Dead and lost to Salvation.

Finally we see in the Heart a little Church, an open Purse, Bread and Fish.

The meaning of the Church is that he likes to Pray and continues to Pray unceasingly, as well publicly in the Assemblages of the Righteous, as in the secret, silent Chamber, and wherever he goes, his Heart communes with God, rejoices at His presence, gives itself up to Him and remains with Him for all time. Without Prayer no one can remain and endure in Godliness, in Faith and in the Love of Jesus Christ.

The open Purse represents his charity, his brotherly Love. He strives against avarice and covetousness by giving gladly from his own stores to his needy brothers as far as is in his power. In this way he practices Love and withdraws his Heart more and more from earthly matters.

He knows full well that the Souls which have escaped Satan by renouncing all other serious vices, such as Lust and Intemperance, will again fall unconsciously into the toils of the Devil, if they give themselves up secretly to Avarice and love of Money and under various Excuses and Pretences forget to do good unto others and to give to them of their own.

Bread and Fish are symbols of his Temperance in Eating and Drinking that he may endeavor to be Temperate in all things. They also represent Abstinence, that he may not oppress the Spirit, Increase the lusts of his flesh, and make himself incapable to Practice Godliness through illicit Pleasures.

These are the Weapons with which the steadfast Christian strives, this Armor he never lays aside, and thus he remains Victor and conquers over all his Enemies, over the World, the Devil and the Flesh.

PRAYER.

O Jēsus, my love! What care I for the World and its Pleasures, since I now have Thee? Remain Thou within me and grant that I may Remain with Thee, and I will ever be a branch of the vine that bringeth forth Fruit, Without Thee I can do nothing. Strengthen my faith more and more that it may cling to Thee who art Omnipotence and with Thy aid, for whom all things are possible, overcome everything!

May Thy love ever increase within me and inflame my Heart that I may love Thee alone and above all, Thee who art the everlasting Bliss. And find nothing Attractive, nothing Magnificent, nothing Lovely, nothing Worthy of my love but Thee alone. Grant me the Strength of Grace and persistency, for it comes from you alone!

Grant that I may not be separated from Thy love by anything. Thy Cross, Thy Death, and the marks of Thy Suffering shall always give fresh Nourishment to my Love and Devotion for Thee. Thy Love shall always unite me inseparably to Thee!

Grant to me by that which Thou hast Promised me eternal life even here, and through faith, dwell within my Heart.

May Thy Word full of Vigor and Life awaken, enlighten, enliven and strengthen me, every day, in my struggle and in patience and faith. Grant that my whole Heart, all my Affections, all my Thoughts and Desires be devoted unto Thee. Let me not only strive against a few evil lusts and desires but even

against all, Avarice, Lust, Envy and Mockery, as well as Pride, Anger and Vindictiveness, and also sloth and Intemperance.

Therefore let me Pray without Ceasing, that I may ever obtain new Strength from Thee with which to gain Victories that I may remain faithful until my End comes.

Amen.

For this cause I bow my Knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The right Father is above all, what is named Children in heaven and on earth.

That he would grant you, According to the Riches of his Glory, to be strengthened with Might by his Spirit in the inner man;

That Christ may Dwell in your Hearts by Faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in Love.

And be able to comprehend with all Saints what is the breadth, and the length, the Depth and the height;

And to know the Love of Christ, which passeth Knowledge; That ye

might be filled with all the fulness of God; And be filled with the love of Christ, which passeth all Understanding.

Now unto Him, that is able to do exceeding abundantly above All that we ask or think, according to the Power that worketh in us

Unto Him be Glory in the Church by Jesus Christ throughout all ages, world without End.

Amen.

Jesus, in Thy transporting name
What glories meet our eyes!
Thou art the Seraph's lofty tent's
The wonder of the skies.
I might the Heavens with wonder view
A love so strange as Thine;
No thought of Angels ever knew
Compassion so Divine.

And didst Thou Savior leave the sky
To sink beneath our woes?
Didst Thou descend to bleed and die
For Thy rebellious foes?
Oh, may our willing Hearts confess
Thy sweet, Thy gentle sway;
Glad captives of Thy matchless grace,
Thy righteous rule obey.

THE TENTH FIGURE.

THE DEATH OF THE PIOUS AND THE RIGHTEOUS.

A man who remains Steadfast in faith and in the exercise of Godliness up to his End, lies down gladly and confidently to Die when his hour has come to go.

He fears neither Death nor Condemnation; for neither concerns him as we are Assured by Jesus when he said to his Disciples:

Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my Word, and Believeth on Him that Sent me, hath Everlasting Life and shall not come into Condemnation; but is passed from Death unto Life.

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And now the Righteous man lies there with his Conscience at ease, because his Sins have been Forgiven him and he enjoys God's Grace in his Heart.

He has Jesus who was Crucified in his Bosom, and all his Love and Faith is for Jesus, the Crucified, whom he has borne in his Heart during his whole Life and who is now, when he is dying, his sole Refuge and Trust. With Him he lives and with Him he dies.

From his pleasant and serene Countenance shines the Peace that dwelleth within him, the Divine consolation, the Sacred unction of the Spirit that abideth in his Heart.

His eye and his Heart are turned toward Heaven and his whole Appearance expresses and says what he thinks in his Heart:

„I wish my Soul to be Released and to be with Christ."

The Angel of God is waiting for his Soul until it is set free to carry it to God's bosom.

When at last he has been set free from all earthly things, his Soul hastens

to, Him in whom it Believed here below, in whom it Trusted, whom it Loved without ever having seen Him.

Now it is to appear before God. Christ hastens to meet it and Extending his arms to it, Says:

Come thou good and faithful Servant: thou hast been faithful over few things, I will make thee ruler over Many things:

Enter thou into the joy of the Lord.

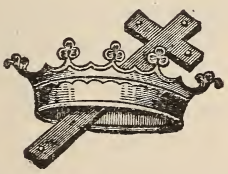
Satan must depart with shame.

What joy, what Bliss will it be to be face to face with Christ, to see how He is, and to become like unto Him in Glory and Salvation. Who can describe it?

Thus Dieth the Righteous man who believes in Jesus Christ, the Christian who hath persevered Steadfastly in his struggle with Sin, the World and Devil. Thus cometh to a beautiful End the struggles and the Sufferings of the Righteous and the Just.

O that every one might be Encouraged by this to continue in the Faith, to continue in the Struggle, never to grow weary, to strive in all Earnestness, to continue on the narrow Way and enter in at the strait Gate and to complete the Course safely.

Beyond a Crown of Glory awaits him, an inheritance, Incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away.



PRAYER.

O Lord Jesus Christ! How happy and light at Heart will I be upon my deathbed, if I have Thee within my Heart, if Thou art with me and consoleth me.

Thou hast forgiven me my Sins, hast Justified, washed, Purified and Sanctified me in Thy Sacred and precious blood.

And Satan? No! Thou hast Conquered him, hast shorn him of his Power. He can do nothing against me, for Thou hast Died, yea, and art Risen again, and art even at the Right hand of God and makest Intercession for me.

Nothing will therefore be able to Separate me from Thy Love in Death.

O Jesus, my beloved, grant that I may only live and die for Thee;

let me always cling Faithfully unto Thee, and never draw back from Thee. Grant me the Grace that I may Die daily, that I may be Dead with all which Thou art not; that I may loose my Heart from all that goeth not with me in Death.

Awaken within me the ardent Desire for Thy Heavenly and Everlasting Kingdom, that my Ways may even now be like those of Heaven, where I have already been announced as a Member of God's family.

This Blessed hope to be with Thee at some time, Inspires me with constant Zeal to do good here below without growing Weary that I may reap without ceasing up above.

At the same time, my Dearest Savior, never let me lose my Confidence in Thee, never forget my Trust in Thee, in Thy Mercy and Love, but Grant that I may be steadfast in my Hope and Trust of Thy Sufferings and Death, Thou who hast Died in my Behalf and Livest for my Sake for Ever and Ever.

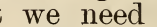
Amen.

O Lord, our God, we praise Thee for all the countless blessings which Thou hast shown us undeservedly in spiritual as well as carnal things, and in childlike trust upon Thy further Grace we pray Thee for Thy further Blessing.

Thou hast given Thy only begotten Son for us, so that we all might be Saved. Why then shouldst Thou not grant us through Him all that we need for our temporal, spiritual and Eternal welfare

Bless also Thy Church, the church of Thy Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.



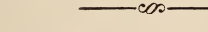
I love to steal awhile away
From ev'ry cumb'ring care,
And spend the hours of setting day
In humble, grateful Prayer.

I love in solitude to shed
The penitential tear,
And all His promises to plead
Where none but God can hear.

I love to think on Mercies past,
And future good implore,
And all my cares and Sorrows cast
On Him whom I adore.

I love by faith to take a view
Of brighter scenes in Heaven;
The prospect doth my strength renew,
While here by tempests driven.

Thus, when life's toilsome day is o'er
May its departing ray
Be calm as this impressive Hour,
And lead to endless day.

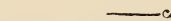


O Love divine, how Sweet thou art!
When shall I find my willing Heart
All taken up by thee?
I long, and thirst, and faint to prove
The greatness of redeeming love,
The love of Christ to me.

Stronger His love than death or hell;
Its riches are unsearchable;
The first-born sons of light
Desire, in vain, its depth to see;
They cannot reach the Mystery,
The length, and breadth, and height.

Oh, that I could forever sit,
With Mary, at the Master's feet!
Be this my happy Choice;
My only care, delight, and Bliss,
My joy, my heaven on Earth be this,
To hear the Bridegroom's voice.

Oh, that I could with favor'd John
Recline my weary Head upon
The dear Redeemer's breast!
From care, and sin, and sorrow free,
Give me, O Lord, to find in Thee
My everlasting rest.



Come, Holy Spirit, calm my Mind
And fit me to approach my God;
Remove each vain, each worldly
Thought, and lead me to Thy blest abode.

Hast Thou imparted to my Soul
A living spark of Holy fire?
Oh, kindle now the Sacred flame,
And make me burn with pure desire.

A brighter faith and hope impart,
And let me now my Savior see;
Oh, soothe and cheer my burden'd Heart
And bid my spirit rest in Thee.

PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

or

OUR MANNER OF CONDUCT TOWARDS GOD.

To worship the Almighty publicly,
To enter His House gladly,
To listen to His word Devoutly,
And to sing His Praise
Is a duty which devolves
Upon the Christian as long as he lives.

If you Worship Him only in Secrecy,
And though you call Jesus your Savior,
Yet do not Worship Him in public,
Nor confess Him openly before all men,
Are you of Him? Are you a Christian
Who is grateful to his Savior?

He who shuns the service
On God's Day of Rest,
Through indolence avoids the Assembly
And will not Pray with others,
He avoids a Sacred Obligation
And has no care for his Soul.

You must attend the House of God,
Even that you may edify your Neighbor.

How Many are there that look to You,
And that look only to the Example
set by Others.

Remember that you as a Christian
Must set a good Example to Others.

But O, how Necessary it is for You,
O Christian, to instruct Yourself
More and more of your Duties
And of the way that leadeth to Salvation,
In this the time of your Probation,
Where you are liable to Fail.

How weak are our own Powers,
How slight our Knowledge and
Understanding.
The Worship of God is the right Means

In which we are United by God's Mercy,
A means which giveth us
New strength for Faith and Virtue.

How much Consolation have I been
afforded
When I heard the Word of the Lord.
How much did I Love those happy Hours
In which I Worshiped God
And casting aside all Earthly cares,
Have striven only for Everlasting Life.

Nothing equals the Heavenly Bliss
Which fills the Heart of the Righteous
When in those blessed Moments
It raises itself in Prayer to God,
And full of Happiness
It Overflows with Gratitude and Joy.

How vain are the Pleasures of the
Earth to him
Who has tasted of the Joys of Heaven;
How sweet is the Consolation
When in the midst of Suffering
You have found your best Friend.
To him who is in Communion with God,
How vain is all Earthly Happiness.

God of mercy, God of Grace!
Show the brightness of Thy Face:
Shine upon us, Savior Shine;
Fill Thy Church with light Divine;
And Thy saving Health Extend
To the Earth's remotest end.

Let the People praise Thee, Lord!
Be by all that live adored:
Let the Nations shout and sing,
Glory to their Savior King;
At Thy feet their Tribute pay,
And Thy Holy Will obey.

Let the people praise Thee, Lord!
Earth shall then her Fruits Afford;
God to man his Blessings give;
Man to God Devoted live;
All Below, and all Above,
One in joy, and light, and Love.

GOD, OUR FATHER.

From the Heaven above us,
Where the Angels abide,
God looks forth so gladly
Down on every Child.

Faithfully all day long
Listens to its Prayer,
Watches o'er its Footsteps
With a Father's care.

With hands that are ever open
He gives its daily Bread,
Helps it gladly, willingly,
In all fear and dread.

Tell to all the Children
That a Father lives,
Who doth always love them
And who freely gives.

THOUGHTS FOR COMMUNION.

UPON PARTAKING OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT.

Bless the Lord, O my Soul;
And all that is within me,
bless his Holy name;
Bless the Lord, O my Soul,
And forget not all his Benefits;
Who forgiveth all thine iniquities;
Who healeth all thy Diseases;
Who redeemeth thy Life from
Destruction;
Who Crowneth thee with loving
kindness
And tender Mercies.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
Slow to Anger, and plenteous in
Mercy.

He dealeth not with us
After our Sins;
Nor rewardeth us
According to our iniquities.

Like as a father pitieth
His children,
So the Lord pitieth them
That fear him.

For God so loved the world,
That he gave his only begotten
Son,
That whosoever believeth in Him
Should not perish,
But have everlasting life.
Amen.

AFTER PARTAKING OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT.

Therefore being Justified
By Faith, we have Peace
With God through our Lord
Jesus Christ.

If God be for us, who can be
against us?

He that spared not his own
Son, but delivered him up
For us all, how shall he not
With him also freely give us
All things?

Who shall lay anything
To the charge of God's elect?
It is God that Justifieth.
Who is he that condemneth?

It is Christ that Died,
yea rather, that is risen again,
who is even at the right
hand of God, who also
maketh Intercession for us.

God is Love. Let us
love him, because he first
loved us.

Who shall separate us from the
Love of God?
Shall Tribulation, or Distress, or
Persecution, or Famine, or
Nakedness, or Peril, or the Sword?

Nay, in All these things
we are more than conquerors
through Him that loved us.
For I am persuaded that neither
Death, nor Life, nor Angels,
nor Principalities, nor Powers,
nor things Present, nor things
to Come,

Nor Height, nor Depth,
nor any other Creature shall be able

to separate us from the Love of
God,
which is in Christ Jesus, our
Lord.

My Soul doth magnify the Lord
And my Spirit hath rejoiced
in God my Savior.

This is a Faithful Saying
and worthy of all acceptation,
that Christ Jesus is come into
the world to save the sinners.
He hath shed his Blood
for the remission of Sins.

And if any man sin, we have
an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ, the Righteous:
And he is the Propitiation
for our Sins: and not
for ours only, but also for
the Sins of the whole World.

Hereby perceive we the Love
of God,
because He laid down his life
for us.

And this is His commandment,
That we should believe on
the Name of his Son, Jesus Christ
and love one another,
as he gave us a commandment.

Beloved, if God so loved us,
we ought also to love one
another.——

If we love one another,
God dwelleth in us, and his
Love is perfected in us.

By this shall all men
know that ye are my Disciples,
if ye have love to one another.

Love your Enemies: that ye
may be the Children of your
Father
which is in Heaven.——

It is a faithful saying;
For if we be dead with Him,
we shall also live with Him:
If we suffer, we shall also reign
with Him'

If so be that we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified together.

Where I am, there shall also my Servant be. I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there may ye be also.

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures. He leadeth me beside the still Waters.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the Shadow of death, I will fear no Evil: for thou art with me. Goodness and Mercy shall follow me all the days of my Life.

My Sheep hear my Voice, and I know them and they follow me:

And I give unto them eternal Life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any Man pluck them out of my Hand.

I am the Resurrection, and the Life:

He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his Holy Name.

Amen.

SHORT EXPLANATION

of the

BIBLE.

At the Beginning of the Bible we read of a new World.

The Word of God announceth the End even from the Beginning.

It is not only the Compass which guides every weary Wanderer to his everlasting Rest, but it also contains the great Plan and the End the Almighty had in view with regard to the world which He created, and the Church which He delivered.

It contains the eternal Purpose of God, revealed by Jesus-Christ. If any one will compare the first three Chapters

of the Bible with the last three, he will be suprised at the A g r e e m e n t existing between them.

„In the beginning God Created the Heaven and the Earth." [Gen. 1. 1.] And at the end of the Bible we read again of a new World;

„And I saw a new Heaven and a new Earth: for the first Heaven and the first Earth were passed away." Rev. 21. 1. And I, John, saw the holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of Heaven.

And I heard a great Voice out of Heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

„And God said; Let there be Light: and there was Light." Gen. 1. 3. And in Rev. 21. 23, 25 we find: And the City had

no need of the Sun, neither of the Moon, to shine in it: for the Glory of God did lighten it and the Lamb is the Light thereof.—And the Gates of it shall not be shut at all by day or night: for there shall be no Night there.

„And a River went out of Eden to water the Garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads." Gen. 2. 10. „And he shewed me a pure river of water of Life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb." Rev. 22. 1.

In the Beginning we see Satan making his Entrance in order to Seduce and to Destroy. At the End we see that he is cast into the bottomless Pit that he may no longer seduce Man. Rev. 20. 2. „And he laid hold on the Dragon, that old Serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless Pit, and Shut him up." Rev. 20. 2.

In the Beginning Sin and Pain, and Lamentation and Death came into the World. At the end God shall wipe away all Tears from their Eyes; and there shall be no more Death. Rev. 21. 4.

In the Beginning the Earth is Condemned to bring forth thorns and thistles because of the iniquity. At the end; And there shall be no more curse: but the Throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it.

In the Beginning we read: Lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the Tree of Life, and eat, and live forever. Gen. 3. 22. At the end we find the tree of life in the midst of New Jerusalem.

Blessed are they that do his Commandments, that they may have Right to the Tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the City Rev. 22. 14.

In the Beginning Man is subjected to the Power of Death and of the Grave,

while at the End the dead, small and great, stand before God.

And the Sea gave up the Dead which were in it, and Death and Hell were cast into the Lake of Fire. Rev. 20. 13, 14.

This is the second death.

In the Beginning the first Adam lost his Power over the Earth and was driven with Shame and Sorrow from Paradise. In the End we find the second Adam as Victor over Sin and Death, as King on the Throne and master of all ruling in Triumph and Glory for Ever and Ever.

If we consider the plan of the Bible in this way we find that it is more than an ordinary Book. It is a Book which reveals the purpose of God and not alone points out the way to Salvation, but also indicates the Path of His chosen People through the desert, and also points out in advance the final aim of the World which He has Created and the Church which He has delivered.

It is the Sincere wish of the Author of this Book that God may be pleased to secure for it in future many worthy Readers and to convince all unworthy Readers of their Error so that Truth may conquer.

The reason why we read the Scriptures is probably still the same and will remain the same in all Eternity as we find it in John 20. 31.

That ye might believe that Jesus is Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his Name.

Whatever is Opposed to this object can hardly be called a worthy Reading of the Bible. This is particularly applicable to those who seek Information from this book in a hostile Spirit, which shall serve as means to burst the Holy bonds of Religion and be like unto the ancient Heathens who according to Ps. 2. 2, 3. take counsel together against

the Lord, and against his Anointed saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their Cords from us.

Such as they, Read the Scriptures with Prejudice and with the dangerous Intention of drawing Poison from Honey and to mock boldly at that which placeth man above other Creatures.

The Holy Scriptures are Read unworthily if the Unbeliever tries to find in it the Proof of his mistaken Prejudices and Preconceived notions, the Rioter a defense for his Riotous living, and the Superstitious tries to obtain Surreptitiously the Knowledge of some accidental Occurrence or of other Human Secrets; finally if it is done only to pass away Time, as a matter of habit or to Encourage a sense of Pharisaical Justice.

Of such as these we must say, They Read the Sacred Scriptures, but they do not read them aright. They continue the

Race of the Pharisees who Searched as Eagerly in the Writings of the Old Testament as they Purposely hardened their Hearts against Divine Inspirations and Received the merited rebuke from Jesus, which we find in John 5. 39, 40.

Ye search the Scriptures for in them ye think ye have Eternal Life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have Life.

Who would therefore expect to be Blessed by the Reading of the Scriptures must do it with grateful Reverence, with hallowed Attention, and with willing Obedience. Then he will be Convinced by unfailing Experience that the Word of God still Possesses the Power to Promote the Knowledge of Truth to Godliness, to strengthen the Instruction to Salvation and to preserve the Faith in Jesus against all attacks unto the End.

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM.

Star of peace, shine forth this night
And upon each Christian child
Cast a ray of heavenly light
Radiant, soft and ever mild.

Glittering on the nightly plain
A star divine behold!
Angels in its heavenly train
Their beautiful wings unfold.

The angels proclaim the hour
When they beheld the Lord
Breathing in heavenly glory
Forth His divine word.

Hark! hark! to God the chorus breaks
From ev'ry host, from ev'ry gem;
But one alone the Savior speaks
It is the Star of Bethlehem.

Behold the Angels near the star
Coming out of heaven's door!
Though they seem as yet so far,
They soon will reach the gladsome shore.

While marshall'd on the nightly plain
The glitt'ring hosts bestud the sky,
One star alone, of all the train,
Can fix the sinners wand'ring eye.

It is my guide, my light, my all;
It bade my dark forebodings cease;
And through the storm and dangers thrall,
It led me to the part of peace.

Now safely moor'd, my perils o'er,
I'll sing first in night's diadem,
Forever and forevermore
The Star the Star of Bethlehem.

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